

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An apparatus for dynamically managing a user's favorite channels, the apparatus comprising:

a user input unit receiving a channel change input from the user;

a channel list storage unit storing an entire channel list comprising channels receivable using a tuner and channel preference information regarding the user's preference degrees for channels;

a control unit calculating a preference degree for a channel selected in response to the channel change input received by the user input unit and analyzing a pattern of channel change inputs; and

an output unit providing content of the selected channel according to calculation and analysis results of the control unit,

wherein the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit in response to the channel change input if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel satisfies a predetermined reference, and the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if the calculated degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference and a predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is received by the user input unit,

wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs makes possible movement to a channel that does not satisfy the channel preference degree, and

wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs comprises the channel change input received by the user input unit for the selected channel.

2. (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the channel preference information is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel.

3. (original): The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the accumulation is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel in each time zone.

4. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is “channel up – channel down – channel up” or a pattern of “channel down – channel up – channel down”.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference of the selected channel, the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit according to the pattern of the channel change inputs, if the selected channel is present between two channels that have preference degrees satisfying the predetermined reference and that are adjacent to the selected channel.

6. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that “channel up” or “channel down” is continuously received as the channel change input for a predetermined period of time.

7. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that “channel up” or “channel down” is received as the channel change input a predetermined number of consecutive times.

8. (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is a broadcast program.

9. (currently amended): A method of dynamically managing a user's favorite channels, the method comprising:

receiving a channel change input from the user using an apparatus that stores an entire channel list comprising channels receivable using a tuner and channel preference information regarding the user's preference degrees for channels;

calculating a preference degree for a channel selected in response to the received channel change input and analyzing a pattern of the channel change input; and

providing content of the selected channel according to results of the calculation and the analysis,

wherein the content of the selected channel is provided if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel satisfies a predetermined reference, and the content of the selected channel is provided if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference and a predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is received by the user input unit,

wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs makes possible movement to a channel that does not satisfy the channel preference degree, and

wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs comprises the received channel change input for the selected channel.

10. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the channel preference information is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel.

11. (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the accumulation is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel in each time zone.

12. (previously presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is “channel up – channel down – channel up” or a pattern of “channel down – channel up – channel down”.

13. (previously presented): The method of claim 12, wherein in the providing of the content of the selected channel, when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference of the selected channel, the content of the selected channel is provided through the output unit according to the pattern of the channel change inputs, if the selected channel is present between two channels that have preference degrees satisfying the predetermined reference and that are adjacent to the selected channel

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that “channel up” or “channel down” is continuously received as the channel change input for a predetermined period of time.

15. (previously presented): The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that “channel up” or “channel down” is received as the channel change input a predetermined number of consecutive times.

16. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the content is a broadcast program.

17. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control unit calculates the preference degree based on the stored channel preference information.

18. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the channel is selected with reference to the entire channel list.

19. (new): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs further comprises a first channel change input, and the control unit provides, through the output unit, content of a first channel that has a preference degree that satisfies the predetermined reference in response to the first channel change input.